

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UDC Resolution 2016-_____

SUBJECT: Conferral of Honorary Degree upon David Adjaye, Principal, Adjaye Associates

WHEREAS, pursuant to D.C. Code §38-1202.06(3), the Board of Trustees has authority to award degrees and to establish policy with respect to the award of degrees; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 8 DCMR §315.2, the President, upon consultation with the Faculty Senate, has recommended that David Adjaye be awarded an honorary degree for his outstanding achievements as an architect and designer, including the design for the *Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture*, for the global recognition and awards his work has garnered, including the Wall Street Journal Innovator Award and the W.E.B. Du Bois medal from Harvard University and the honor of being named an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE), and for the thoughtful social and civic interpretations that he brings to his work;

WHEREAS, pursuant to 8 DCMR §315.3, the Board of Trustees must approve the recommendation of David Adjaye by an affirmative vote of three-fourths (¾) of the members present at the meeting of the Board following the meeting at which the recommendation was made;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia hereby approves the recommendation of the awarding of the degree of Doctor of Fine Arts, with all the honors, privileges, and duties pertaining thereto.

Approved by the Executive Committee:

March 22, 2016

Ratified by the Board of Trustees

April 26, 2016

Elaine A. Crider
Chairperson of the Board




Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Donald L. Rickford
Chief Financial Officer

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

TO: The Board of Trustees

FROM: Donald L. Rickford, Chief Financial Officer 
Office of the Chief Financial Officer (UDC)

DATE: March 14, 2016

SUBJECT: Honorary Degree upon David Adjaye

Conclusion

The Office of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer at the University of the District of Columbia approves this request based on the information provided. We do not anticipate any fiscal impact.

Background

The President, upon consultation with the Faculty Senate, has recommended that David Adjaye be awarded an honorary degree for his outstanding achievements as an architect and designer, including the design for the *Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture*, for the global recognition and awards his work has garnered, including the Wall Street Journal Innovator Award and the W.E.B. Du Bois medal from Harvard University and the honor of being named an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE), and for the thoughtful social and civic interpretations that he brings to his work.

Mr. Adjaye is being recognized for his impressive accomplishments as an architect, designer, and artist, who have left an indelible mark around the world. Mr. Adjaye's architectural prowess and artistic appreciation, combined with his social and civic interpretation, and business acumen serve as an outstanding example and source of inspiration for the University's diverse students.

Mr. Adjaye has taught at the Royal College of Art, where he previously studied, and at the Architectural Association School in London, and has held distinguished professorships at the universities of Pennsylvania, Yale and Princeton. He is currently the John C. Portman Design Critic in Architecture at Harvard University.

He earned a B.A. at London South Bank University, before graduating with an M.A. in 1993 from the Royal College of Art (London).

David Adjaye, OBE
Principal
Adjaye Associates

Mr. Adjaye is being recognized for his impressive accomplishments as an architect, designer, and artist, who has left an indelible mark around the world. Rather than advance a signature architectural style, his structures address local concerns and conditions through an understanding of historical context and a flexible application of global modernism. Often set in cities struggling with diversity and difference, his public buildings provide spaces to foster connections and explore how neighborhoods evolve and how new communities emerge. Mr. Adjaye's architectural prowess and artistic appreciation, combined with his social and civic interpretation, and business acumen serve as an outstanding example and source of inspiration for the University's diverse students. For representing UDC's values so well, we are proud to honor his achievements.

David Adjaye, OBE (Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire), is recognized as a leading architect of his generation. Born in Tanzania to Ghanaian parents, his influences include contemporary art, music and science, as well as African art forms and the civic life of cities. In 1994, he set up his first office where his ingenious use of materials and his sculptural ability established him as an architect with an artist's sensibility and vision. He eventually established Adjaye Associates in 2000 and immediately won several prestigious commissions. In Oslo he designed the Nobel Peace Centre in the shell of a disused railway station (completed in 2005). In London his design for the Whitechapel Idea Store pioneered a new approach to the provision of information services (2005). Later projects included the Stephen Lawrence Centre, with teaching and community spaces (2007, London), and the Moscow School of Management Skolkovo (2010). Adjaye Associates now has four international offices, with projects throughout the world. These include a shopping and cultural complex in Beirut (ongoing), a concept store in Lagos (2014), a new headquarters building for the International Finance Corporation in Dakar (ongoing) and a hospital in Rwanda (ongoing).

In April 2009, a design competition jury selected Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroup as the architectural and engineering team for the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture (slated to open in 2016). David Adjaye was the lead designer, and Philip G. Freelon was the lead architect.

Exhibitions of his architectural work have been mounted, including: "David Adjaye: Output," held at Gallery MA, Tokyo (2010); and most recently a comprehensive retrospective exhibition, which opened in late 2015 at the Art Institute of Chicago. Adjaye has taught at the Royal College of Art, where he previously studied, and at the Architectural Association School in London, and has held distinguished professorships at the universities of Pennsylvania, Yale and Princeton. He is currently the John C. Portman Design Critic in Architecture at Harvard. He was awarded the OBE for services to architecture in 2007, and has many other recognitions to his credit, including the Wall Street Journal Innovator Award in 2013 and the W.E.B. Du Bois medal from Harvard University.

He earned a B.A. at London South Bank University, before graduating with an M.A. in 1993 from the Royal College of Art (London).

UDC VALUES

*Learning, discovery, and engagement * Academic excellence * High expectations * Student success
Innovation * Cross-cultural and international perspectives * Technological competencies
Collaboration among our internal and external partners * Public service*